



Stockton Mayor Makes Crime a Top Priority

Written for the web by [Tim Daly](#), Reporter



Stockton waterfront development



Mayor Ed Chavez of Stockton didn't start his state of the city speech with comments on crime, but he said that subject is his first priority.

The mayor delivered his annual update on city business today at the Stockton Arena.

Chavez spoke about downtown redevelopment, an increase in jobs, stronger neighborhoods, and a more cooperative business climate. But he also said the city's state-leading crime rate needs to be brought down.

To accomplish that, Chavez hopes to add more outreach workers. He wants to spend the money necessary to get a grounded police helicopter back in the air. He also wants to copy successful anti-crime programs that are being used in Fresno and San Jose.

Chavez also said the job can't just be done by city hall. "It's not more cops, we can't arrest our way out of this situation, we have to engage all segments of the community," he said.

The mayor titled his speech, "It's Your City, Take Ownership." About a 1,000 business people and community members gathered at the waterfront arena to hear his comments.

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